

**TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY  
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE**



**FISCAL NOTE**

**SB 937**

March 16, 2009

**SUMMARY OF BILL:** Authorizes a court, when sentencing an offender to supervised probation for an offense against a minor subject to registration as a sexual or violent sexual offense, to prohibit such person from using Internet chat rooms or to require a sexual or violent sexual offender to provide Internet account information such as e-mail address, user names, and aliases on the sex offender registry. Authorizes the Board of Probation and Parole (BOPP) to require the same conditions if the offender is being released on parole or community supervision for life.

**ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT:**

**Increase State Expenditures – Not Significant**

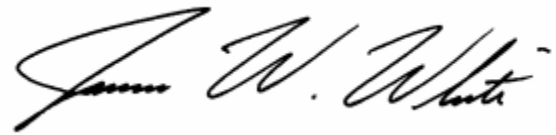
Assumptions:

- The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation (TBI) will revise the Registration Form to include the additional information regarding sex offenders' Internet account information. Any cost associated with revising the registration form and transmitting such information electronically is estimated to be not significant and could be handled within existing resources of the TBI without an increased appropriation or reduced reversion.
- According to BOPP, most sex offenders under supervision are not allowed to use computers or the Internet, and such offenders must sign a "Specialized Probation Conditions for Sex Offenders" form to that effect.
- No additional requirement for BOPP officers to monitor this type of information or computer usage by registered offenders.
- If additional monitoring were required, the cost of this bill would increase substantially. BOPP estimates a recurring increase in state expenditures of approximately \$515,682 which reflects the cost of eight IRSS 3 positions (one in each district) and one IRSS 5 position to supervise the additional monitoring of registered offenders. This estimate includes salary, benefits, supplies and other related expenses. Currently, BOPP has 2,400 registered sex offenders under supervision. The one-time increase in state expenditures is estimated at \$77,700

which includes safety equipment, forensics software and licenses for spy ware software.

**CERTIFICATION:**

This is to duly certify that the information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "James W. White". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "J" and "W".

James W. White, Executive Director

/lsc